

# **JULY 2013 CENTAUR NEWSLETTER**

## **COMING UP ...**

I would like to welcome you to our remaining horse shows – dressage Gold Show this coming Sunday -Aug 4<sup>th</sup>, the TGIF Dress-up theme Night on August 23, the TGIF Final Sept 6<sup>th</sup> and a Dressage and Hunter Schooling on September 29<sup>th</sup>. Many of our school horses compete in these shows with Centaur students – so come cheer them on!

The **TGIF shows** are entry-level competitions for starting out riders – come and watch: you/your child may want to do this show series next year.

## **EXTRA RIDING – More opportunities in August**

If anyone is interested in extra riding in August, send me an email, and I will let you know where the opps are.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2013 Centaur Show Team** – see attached picture. Caroline Lanthier & Shi, Caroline Reekie & Margo, Morgan Bordillon & Grace. They have been to 3 OESS shows so far, and have come back with 10 Champion or Reserve Championships

## **BABIES**

All babies have arrived! Ruby's, possibly my favourite broodmare (maybe after Lucy), was the last one born. Black with 4 socks a star and a snip. Cute as a button!

The other babies are Daxl, Princess' black colt), Allie's baby - Doublaire(so-named because she is the spitting image of her dam), Daurie – Wisteria's baby – who is one of the nicest movers to be born here, Susie Q – Foxy's baby, and Django, Frangle's baby who was the first-born. Both Susie and Doublaire have been sold. Susie is going to join her full brother Spyder with the same owner.

## **DAYCAMPS**

There is still room. Contact me to find out when.

## **CENTAUR CALENDAR**

The calendar is attached to this newsletter. It has all the important dates: horse shows, quiet days, workshops. Quiet days for the School Session are not yet determined. ... there are always changes, so check it out

## **BIG PARTY – Centaur turns 40!!**

Come to the show on August 23 – the dress-up theme for that night is “It’s Party Time!” – to celebrate Centaur’s 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Operation.

## **SCHOOL SESSION 2013-2014**

### **SCHOOL SESSION INSTRUCTORS**

Monday & Friday am – Shirley

Tuesday – Valerie Arsenault

Wednesday – Danika Guertin-Pierson

Thursday – TBA

Saturday am – TBA

Saturday pm – TBA

Sunday – different activities planned for our students, Mini-Equestrians

### **LESSON PRICES**

Prices are not going up in price with one exception: lessons ridden with Danika Guertin-Pierson are now listed as same cost as lessons with myself (Shirley). The rest of the prices stay the same (have not gone up in several years, other than the tax – which goes to Harper, not Centaur)

### **\*\*\* NEW \*\*\* MINI-EQUESTRIANS ... *Children learning to ride***

For ages 5 to 8.

This program is an introduction to the world of horses and riding. Your child will learn the basics of horse handling, grooming and riding in a fun and safe atmosphere. Parents will join their child in learning the in-stable basics, and leading their child on the horse or pony.

A great way to build confidence, develop a relationship with a horse or pony, and to start on the life-long journey of equestrianism...

Parents must participate for the entire class. (please wear stable-

appropriate clothing including safe footwear – no open-toed sandals)

Cost is \$199 for 4 classes (176.10 + hst). (max 4 children accepted per class), or \$53 per class (\$46.90 + tax)

### **TRAIL RIDES**

We will be offering Trail Rides to our students on Sundays from September on. We have access to the trail which runs east-west right beside Centaur. Cost will be \$35 per ride (taxes in). Sign-up in the tack room.

## **SCHOOL SESSION REGISTRATION (Sept to June)**

**AUGUST 5<sup>TH</sup> REGISTRATION DATE:** The students who are presently registered in the summer Session have until August 5<sup>th</sup> to secure a riding lesson time. After this date, Centaur will be accepting registrations from new students.

### **WHAT I NEED FROM YOU UPON REGISTRATION:**

**TIMES:** a signed application for riding indicating your best riding times, and the times you cannot come. For week evening lessons, I need to know what your earliest lesson time can be. (not arrival time, LESSON time)

**PAYMENTS:** registrations are accepted one of two ways. For “How to Pay”, see the price list. Also, see same list for exact prices of classes you desire. All cheques must be presented at time of booking. If unsure of eventual size of class, still pay ahead of time, and payments will adjusted once the schedule is firmed up.

**No application will be considered without the \$100 booking fee.**

**PRICE LIST:** is attached. Lesson prices for lessons taught by Danika have increased. Other prices remain the same, and have been unchanged for several years.

**PROCESS OF MAKING UP A SCHEDULE:** This requires hours of work: emails & phone calls back and forth, juggling -trying to meet everyone's needs. Gathering up this info takes time, so please be patient with me. If you contact me to find out your riding time and if I don't respond to your calls/emails right away ... I'm not ignoring you, I simply may not have the answer, yet. I will be sending out some rough drafts of the proposed session – this is your opportunity to give me feedback on proposed schedule.

**WHEN WILL YOU KNOW YOUR RIDING TIME:** Due to the difficulty of knowing everyone's scheduling needs ahead of time, I won't know the exact schedule until two weeks or so before School Session starts. Once I have riders' "wish list" of when they want to ride along with desired class size, then I can proceed to set up a schedule.

**BOOKING FEE:** Requests will not be processed without the booking fee. Students need to let me know they are serious with their request by submitting a \$100 booking fee along with their application. The Booking fee is deducted from the cost of the session on the last payment. If the rider stops riding or changes their mind after registering, the booking fee is forfeited.

**EARLY PAYMENT DISCOUNT:** To take advantage of the early payment discount, you can fully pay for what you have requested by August 5<sup>th</sup>. This early payment discount is available to those who were registered for a full session during the Summer. (If necessary, the bill will be adjusted later, but you will still get the early payment discount.)

**HOW TO CHECK THE ON-GOING PROGRESS OF THE SCHEDULE:** Go to our website, or to the posted list in the tackroom. BUT, neither of these schedules will be perfectly up-to-date. The only "official" schedule is the messy one on my desk, with the many-changes-a-day scrawled on it! (The website and tackroom schedules will have a date at the bottom of the page indicating when it was last worked on.) These on-going tentative schedules will give you the opportunity to see where I'm going with the schedule, and if something is not satisfactory to you, you will be able to respond before the finalized version.

**TWEAKING:** The classes may be tweaked after we see the

lessons, especially the Saturday lessons. So if once the session starts up, you are unsure of class you have been placed in, don't hesitate to contact me as soon as you can.

**A REQUEST:** I do my best to fit everyone in as to their wishes, but it is helpful if you can give me enough choices, and some leeway. With a bit of moving room the classes will be a better fit for you.